Senate Bill No. 910

CHAPTER 948

An act to add Section 9101.5 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to aging, and making an appropriation therefor.

[Approved by Governor October 10, 1999. Filed with Secretary of State October 10, 1999.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 910, Vasconcellos. Aging: strategic planning.

The Mello-Granlund Older Californians Act, which is administered by the California Department of Aging, establishes various programs that serve older individuals, including area agencies on aging, home-delivered meals programs, community-based services programs, multipurpose senior services programs, senior center funding programs, and aging information and education programs.

This bill would make legislative findings regarding the need for a strategic plan coordinating the services available to older individuals, and would request the University of California to compile specified information, including a survey of existing resources throughout California's governmental and administrative structure that are available to address the needs of an aging society. The bill would require the Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency, based upon the information compiled by the University of California and with the consultation or advice of specified entities, to develop a statewide strategic plan on aging for long-term planning purposes and submit the plan to the Legislature by July 1, 2003.

The bill would appropriate \$125,000 from the General Fund to the University of California if the University of California conducts the survey of existing resources specified above.

Appropriation: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares the following:

- (a) Californians need and want services that are responsive to their gender, age, and cultural and ethnic heritage.
- (b) Public programs, services, and assistance for aging Californians are administered by many state and local entities without the benefit of a statewide, long-term master plan. The results are a fragmented, uncoordinated approach of services data collection.
- (c) Given the rapid demographic, economic, and social changes taking place in California, particularly the dramatic and projected

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increase in the number of aging Californians, there must be immediate action to develop a comprehensive plan to address future housing, transportation, education, employment, health care, legal, and insurance needs.

- (d) Administrative, budgetary, programmatic, and historical impediments which inhibit change and progress must be identified and removed so California can create an efficient, consumer-oriented service delivery system.
- (e) California must address the health and social challenges of aging in the 21st century by planning and delivering a continuum of services and assistance which respect individual choices and provide family support.
- (f) Developing this continuum, eliminating duplication of effort, enhancing coordination, and setting priorities for resource allocation must not occur without meaningful involvement of consumers, public and private providers, and state and local entities working in a partnership to create the master plan.
- (g) It is in the interest of the State of California that the California Health and Human Services Agency provide leadership to identify, develop, and sustain data bases to analyze public policies and resource allocations and create the framework for a statewide, long-term master plan for aging Californians in the 21st century.
- SEC. 2. Section 9101.5 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:
- 9101.5. (a) (1) The University of California is requested to compile the following information:
- (A) A survey of existing resources throughout California's governmental and administrative structure that are available to address the needs of an aging society. The survey shall include, but not be limited to, a commentary on existing gaps in these resources, and projections for gaps that may occur, based on existing and future demographic trends. The survey required by this subparagraph shall be submitted to the Legislature and the Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency by no later than January 1, 2001. The survey shall avoid any duplication with the implementation of the report on long-term care programs required by Chapter 1.5 (commencing with Section 100145) of Part 1 of Division 101 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (B) A composite demographic profile of California. The University of California shall commence the profile required by this subparagraph by January 1, 2001, and shall complete the profile no later than January 1, 2002.
- (C) The development of a plan for a longitudinal data base of Californians. The University of California shall commence the development of the plan for a data base required by this subparagraph by January 1, 2002.

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(D) Findings and recommendations, and steps for their implementation.

- (2) This subdivision shall not apply to the University of California unless the Regents of the University of California, by resolution, make these provisions applicable.
- (b) Based upon the findings, recommendations, and data presented by the University of California, as specified in subdivision (a), the Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency shall, with the consultation or advise of the California Commission on Aging, the California Council on Gerontology and Geriatrics, consumer groups, and other interested parties, develop a statewide strategic plan for California to address the impending demographic, economic, and social changes triggered by California's aging and diversifying society. The secretary shall submit the completed plan to the Legislature for consideration by July 1, 2003. It is the intent of the Legislature that the department hold public hearings on the reports.
- (c) The plan developed pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be periodically updated.
- (d) The sum of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the University of California if the University of California conducts the survey of existing resources required by subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a).